(v) Detective serials

(vi) Socially relevant/Environment serials

(vii) Science fiction

(viii) Historicals/cultural

(ix) Quiz programmes

(x) Children' serials (cartoon/children' serials/animation); and

(xi) Documentaries

World Bank Assistance for Power Projects

*276. SHRI K.V. THANGHABALU: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated shortage of power at present in the country;

(b) whether the Government have sought the assistance of the World Bank in this regard;

(c) whether the World Bank has sanctioned any loan for the purpose; and

(d) if so, the manner in which this loan is proposed to be spent?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) During the period April, 1991 – February, 1992, the energy shortage in the country was of the order of 7.8%.

(b) to (d). Keeping in view the requirement and availability of financial resources for the power programme, specific projects are posed to the World for financial assistance from time to time. At present, twenty-two projects are being financed by the World Bank involving a total financial assistance of US $ 6.957 billion.

[Translation]

Demand and Production of Steel

*277. SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA: DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the total requirement and the actual production of steel in the county during each of the last three years;

(b) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to increase its production; and

(c) the selling rate of steel in India as compared to U.S.A., Germany Japan and South Korea?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Demand and production of finished steel has been as follows:

Million tonnes

	1989–90	*1990–91*	*1991–92*
Estimated demand	14.98	15.52	16.35
Production	13.00	13.53	14.55 (expected)

(b) Steps taken by SAIL to increase the production of steel are as follows:

- Modernisation and technological upgradation to improve plant performance.
- Reduction in coke rate and energy consumption to get better output from available from available inputs
- Ensuring adequate availability of inputs of right quality and quantity
- Augmentation of Captive power generation to reduce dependence on the grid.
- Improved maintenance of plant and equipment.
- Ensuring harmonious industrial relations.

The other measures taken to increase production are as follows:

In the News Industrial Policy, the iron & steel industry has been removed from the list of industries reserved for the public sector. It has also been exempted from the requirements of compulsory licensing under the Industries (D&R) Act, 1951. Custom duty on imported scrap has been reduced from 35% to 10%. These measures are aimed at attracting sizeable private investment in the secondary steel sector and increasing production in this sector.

Deregulation of iron and steel announced on 16.1.92 would further result in improved efficiency and competitiveness and provide requisite environment for the creation of new capacities in the private sector. This would also enable the public sector to generate resources for their modernisation and expansion programmes.

(c) No reliable information about comparable selling prices in these countries is available.

[*English*]

Operational efficiency of Indian Airlines

*278. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the details of existent number of aircraft with the Indian Airlines, category–wise;

(b) the total number of aircraft grounds and the number of aircraft actually in operation category–wise;

(c) the financial loss accruing to the Indian Airlines on account of grounding these aircraft; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to keep the full fleet air worthy at all times?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (d). The existing fleet of Indian Airlines consists of 11 Airbus A–300, 18, Airbus A–320, 23 Boeing 737 and 3 F–27 aircraft. The F–27 aircraft are presently on lease to Coast Guard and Vayudoot.

Generally, 12 out of the 52 aircraft remain grounded for routine maintenance checks. The details are given below:–